

Robidoux Row  
219-225 E. Poulin Street  
St. Joseph  
Buchanan County  
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1852

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, DC 20013-7127

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ROBIDOUX ROW

HABS No. MO-1852

Location: 219-225 E. Poulin Street, St. Joseph, Buchanan County,  
Missouri

Significance: Noted more for its historical associations than its architecture, Robidoux Row is the last remaining structure to link St. Joseph with the French and Indian fur trade. Joseph Robidoux, the founder of the city, began a fur-trading post near this site about 1826. Later, he built and lived in Robidoux Row until his death.

Description: Structure is a single-story brick row of adjacent dwellings. On the eastern end the exposed foundation is of coursed ashlar.

History: Joseph Robidoux built the structure, originally a row of apartments, about 1850 to serve as temporary housing for the many emigrants on their westward journeys. In 1857, after the death of his wife, Robidoux himself moved into the apartment at the eastern end of the row, where he lived until his death in 1868. In 1932, the western third of Robidoux Row was demolished to make way for a highway. Working under the pressure of a threat of demolition in 1974, the St. Joseph Historical Society acquired the building and now uses it as its headquarters.

Source: "Old Saint Jo: Outstanding Buildings and Two Architects." Pamphlet published by the Saint Joseph Historical Society, Saint Joseph, Missouri, 1987.

Historian: Robert Buerglener, HABS, August, 1988.

ADDENDUM TO  
ROBIDOUX ROW  
219-225 East Poulin Street  
Saint Joseph  
Buchanan County  
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1852

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MO,  
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National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
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